GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:866
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2003
RELEASE OF WATER TO TAMIL NADU FROM KARNATAKA
C. SREENIVAASAN;CHANDRESH PATEL KORDIA;M.H. AMBAREESH

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have recently directed the Government of Karnataka to release more water to Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, whether all the Chief Ministers of the four southern States held a meeting recently in New Delhi chaired by Prime Minster;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the total quantity of water released by the Karnataka Government to Tamil Nadu;

(d) whether the interests of farmers have been safe-guarded before ordering the release of more water to Tamil Nadu; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES(SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (e) : Union Government has framed the Cauvery Water (Implementation of the Order of 1991 and all subsequent related orders of the Tribunal) Scheme consisting of the Cauvery River Authority (CRA) and a Monitoring Committee to give effect to the implementation of Interim Order of Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT) dated June 25, 1991 and related subsequent orders. The CRA is headed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Chief Ministers of the basin States are its members. During the year 2002-03, keeping in view the urgent need of water for standing crops in Tamil Nadu as also the drinking water requirement in Karnataka, the Supreme Court has, while hearing an application of Tamil Nadu, ordered on 6.2.2003 that the State of Karnataka shall release sufficient water from its reservoirs so as to ensure an average inflow of 4500 cusec of water per day at Mettur till a final decision is taken by CRA. The CRA held its 6th meeting on February 10, 2003 attended by all members of the Authority. The Prime Minister in the capacity of Chairperson of the CRA decided that the same quantity, as ordered by the Hon'ble Supreme Court i.e. 4500 cusec on an average be made available by the Government of Karnataka at Mettur for another three days. Thereafter, the inflows may be ensured by Karnataka as per the Interim Order of CWDT. The total outflows from Kabini and K.R. Sagar reservoirs of Karnataka from 8.2.03 to 14.2.03 is 3.27 TMC resulting in enhanced inflow in Mettur reservoir from 13.2.03 to 19.2.03 amounting to about 2.58 TMC.